

On page 6, line 34, please delete "Figure 40 shows" and replace with: --Figures 40(A) and 40(B) show--

On page 7, line 1, please delete "Figure 41 shows" and replace with: --Figures 41(A) and 41(B) show--

On page 7, line 5, please delete "Figure 42(A) shows" and replace with: --Figures 42(A) and 42(B) show--

On page 7, line 10, please delete "Figure 42 (B) shows" and replace with: --Figures 42(C) and 42(D) show--

On page 7, line 14, please delete "Figure 42 (C) shows" and replace with: --Figure 42(E) shows--

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entrance of the amendments as detailed above, in the continuation application filed herewith under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is presented with these amendments. Rather, the original specification, as filed on December 3, 1997, has been provided for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53 (b), and Applicants respectfully submit that this preliminary amendment is requested to correct formal matters in the specification (e.g., addition of a statement of continuation application status (with incorporation by reference), addition of a statement regarding government support, and ensuring consistency between the specification and formal drawings). As required, Applicants have submitted herewith replacement sections and paragraphs for those sections and paragraphs that have been amended as detailed above.

Additionally, Applicants would like to bring a typographical error in the declaration to the Examiner's attention. Specifically, the name of one inventor Dongfang Meng is incorrectly listed as Dang Fang Meng. Applicants respectfully submit that the correct spelling is Dongfang Meng. As set forth in MPEP 605.04(b), "when a typographical or transliteration error in the spelling of an inventor's name is discovered during the pendency of an application, a petition is not required, nor is a new oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.63 needed". Applicants thus respectfully request that reference is made to this notification on the declaration so that any further correspondence (e.g., filing receipts) and issued patents will reflect the correct spelling of

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[REDACTED]

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